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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999)

Note verbale dated 6 September 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), and has the honour to forward herewith the response of the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone pursuant to resolution 1390 (2002) concerning Osama bin Laden, the Taliban and al-Qa'idah organizations (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 6 September 2002 from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

6 September 2002

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Sierra Leone presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and, with reference to the implementation of Security Council resolutions concerning terrorism and the Taliban and al-Qa`idah organizations, has the honour to forward herewith the report of the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1390 (2002).

Enclosure

Report of the Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1390 (2002)

Since the adoption of resolution 1390 (2002) on 16 January 2002, the Government of Sierra Leone has determined that no funds, financial assets and economic resources owned directly, or indirectly through agents, associates and other parties, by individuals, groups and entities associated with Osama bin Laden, the Taliban and al-Qa`idah organizations are in any banking or financial institution in Sierra Leone.

However, the Bank of Sierra Leone, the nation's Central Bank, has been instructed, in conformity with the obligation of Sierra Leone under the Charter of the United Nations, to continue to monitor, inquire into and investigate any financial transaction in the banking system that may be linked directly or indirectly to Osama bin Laden and those organizations.

The Government of Sierra Leone has alerted all internal security, immigration and customs authorities throughout the country to take all necessary measures, within the laws of Sierra Leone, to prevent any individual or group associated with the Taliban and al-Qa`idah organizations from entering or transiting through the territory of Sierra Leone.

Furthermore, since some of the individuals on the sanctions list prepared by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) carry aliases, the security, immigration and custom authorities have also been instructed to exercise extra vigilance in ensuring that the individuals and organizations named in the Committee's list are prevented from entering or transiting the territory of Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone, which has the most transparent arms import mechanism in the West African subregion, under Security Council resolution 1171 (1998) of 5 June 1998, does not manufacture, supply or transfer arms, weapons or ammunition to any State or entity. It scrupulously implements the ECOWAS Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa. As a country emerging from a brutal rebel war, and seriously concerned about the devastating consequences of the proliferation, circulation and illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons among criminals, terrorists and other non-State entities, the Government of Sierra Leone recently conducted a successful community arms collection exercise. This initiative, undertaken outside the scope of the disarmament and demobilization programme of the conflict, should also help meet the objectives of the measures imposed by paragraph 2 (c) of resolution 1390 (2002).

Sierra Leone will continue to ensure, through its defence and security forces, that its territory is not used as a conduit for the transfer, transit or stockpiling of arms, weapons, spare parts and ammunition, for use by terrorist organizations and their supporters.